

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1978BUENOS00500

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Channel: n/a

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ACTION H-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 HA-05 VOE-00 SSO-00 /022 W
-----088878 202114Z /73

O 202030Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4227

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 0500

H PASS HONORABLE HENRY A WAXMAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON DC

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS SHUM, CVIS, AR
SUBJECT DEUTSCH CASE

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

() Release (☒) Excise () Deny

Exemption(s): 63 NA

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

REF: STATE 11888

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WAXMAN:
I AM RESPONDING TO YOUR CABLED
MESSAGE OF JAN 17, 1978 ASKING
FOR MY HELP AND ATTENTION IN THE CASE OF ALEJANDRO
DEUTSCH AND HIS FAMILY.
THIS IS A MATTER TO TOP PRIORITY IN THIS EMBASSY.
I WAS GRATEFUL TO RECIEVE YOUR LETTER ON THE DAY I
SAW ARGENTINAS AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES,
JORGE AJA ESPIL --- HERE JUST NOW ON CONSULTATIONS ---
SINCE IT ADDED TO MY PRESENTATION REGARDING THE
DEUTSCH FAMILY AND WAS AN ELOQUENT DEMONSTATION OF
THE KIND OF INTEREST MEMBERS OF CONGRESS HAVE SHOWN
IN THEIR FATE. AMBASSADOR AJA ESPIL SAW PRESIDENT
VIDELA LATER IN THE DAY, AND THERE IS GOOD REASON
TO BELIEVE THAT THE DEUTSCH PROBLEM WAS AMONG THOSE PROBLEMS
DISCUSSED.

TRAVVELLING NOW IN THE COUNTRY IS THE DEPARTMENT OF STATES
DESK OFFICER FOR ARGENTINA, JAME BUMPUS. I HAVE ASKED HIM TO
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INCLUDE A TRIP TO CORDOBA IN HIS SCHEDULE, AND I EXPECT HIM TO
RETURN HERE ON TUESDAY OF NEXT WEEK WITH A REPORT ON THE

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CONDITION OF ALL THE FAMILY BASED ON A PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH MRS DEUTSCH AND HER TWO DAUGHTERS RELEASED WITH HER. THE LEGAL SITUATION OF ALEJANDRO DEUTSCH AND HIS DAUGHTER LILIANA REMAINS DIFFICULT. IT IS TRUE, AS YOUR LETTER STATES, THAT A JUDGE IN CORDOBA HAS FOUND INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE FOR PROSECUTING THIS CASE FURTHER. UNDER ARGENTINAS STATE OF SIEGE PROVISIONS HOWEVER THIS DOES NOT BRING AUTOMATIC RELEASE FROM CUSTODY, AND IN FACT SINCE THE JUDGES DECISION WAS GIVEN BOTH ALEJANDRO AND LILIANA HAVE FORMALLY BEEN PLACED AGAIN UNDER THE EXECUTIVE POWER -- SIGNALLING CONTINUED DETENTION WHILE GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES SEEK AND SORT INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DETAINEES. A DECISION TO RESCIND THIS STATUS IS TAKEN ONLY AFTER EXHAUSTIVE INQUIRY. PROVISIONS DO EXIST HOWEVER FOR A PERSON UNDER THE EXECUTIVE POWER TO APPLY TO LEAVE ARGENTINA UNDER A REGULATED "RIGHT OF OPTION." THIS REQUIRES A FOREIGN EMBASSY TO ASSURE THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT OF A PERSONS BEING PERMITTED TO ENTER THAT EMBASSYS HOME COUNTRY -- }

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THE WELFARE OF THE DEUTSCH FAMILY AND THE OUTCOME OF THEIR PROBLEMS IS SOMETHING FOR WHICH I HAVE CONTINUING PERSONAL CONCERN. I WILL STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOU AND REPORT DEVELOPMENTS AS SOON AS I KNOW OF THEM.
SINCERELY,
RAUL CASTRO
AMBASSADOR
CASTRO

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